GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Andhra Pradesh Forest Department - Departmental proceedings initiated against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 – Punishment of "withholding of 5% (five percent) of pension for a period of five (5) years, besides recovery of the loss caused to Government for an amount of Rs.19,920/- with interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Department, dated 09.02.2006 and the period of suspension from 27.06.2009 to 06.06.2010 treated as not on duty" – Imposed – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.14 **Dated:06.03.2023**

Read the following:

1)From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur, Lr.Ref.No.15166/2008/A&DC-3, dated 02.01.2021.
2)Memo.No.24/Sec.IV/A1/2021, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 11.05.2022.
3)From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur, Lr.Ref.No.15166/2008/A&DC-3, dated 16.11.2022.
4)Letter.No.24/Sec.IV/A1/2021, EFS&T (Sec.IV) Dept., dated 15.12.2022.
5)From the Secretary, APPSC, Lr.No.GAD03-APPS0DCC/126/2022-DC SEC-APPSC (Computer No.1942917), dated 12.01.2023.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur has informed that the following Article of Charge was issued to Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (u/s), earlier Forest Range Officer, Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division by the PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad in Ref.No.15166/2008/P3, dated 01.04.2010, under Rule 20 of A.P.C.S (CC&A) Rules, 1991:-

ARTICLE:"That he has exhibited gross neglect of duty and misappropriated an amount of Rs.19,920/- without actually paying to the staff of Dammapeta Range towards facilitation charges, duly falsifying the accounts by incorporating the personal cheques as vouchers instead of acquaintances in Range Accounts".

2. The Charged Officer has acknowledged the receipt of Article of Charge on 20.04.2010 and submitted his written statement of defense on 28.04.2010. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad has appointed the Chief Conservator of Forests/Conservator of Forests, Khammam as Inquiry Officer and Divisional Forest Officer, Khammam as Presenting Officer in Proc.No.15166/2006/P3 (i&ii), dated 09.05.2010 and 13.09.2010, for conducting the regular inquiry.

3. The Inquiry Officer & the Chief Conservator of Forests/Conservator of Forests, Khammam has completed the enquiry and submitted his findings in Rc.no.1356/2009/M1, dated 28.01.2012, wherein the Inquiry Officer has concluded as follows:

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Findings:"The charge is proved beyond any reasonable doubt and during the enquiry also nothing substantial came out through the side Forest Range Officer".

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Hyderabad has communicated the findings of the Inquiry Officer to the Charged Officer in Ref.No.15166/2008/KI/2(K2), dated 15.02.2012, to submit further defense. The Charged Officer acknowledged the receipt of final notice and submitted his further defense statement on 03.07.2017.

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF., Telangana, Hyderabad, in Ref.no.15166/2008/ Vig-3, dt.26.07.2017, has requested the Conservator of Forests, Khammam to offer his remarks on the further defense statement of Charged Officer.

6. Meanwhile, the Charged Officer has been allotted to the Andhra Pradesh State on inter State transfer on Mutual basis. Hence, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Telangana State, Hyderabad in the ref. No.845/2017/D&A-3, dated 14.02.2018, has transmitted the issue to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur along with records, to finalize the disciplinary case in the capacity of disciplinary authority, which was initiated in the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur in Ref.No.15166/2008/A&DC-3, dated 13.09.2018 & 06.08.2018, has requested the PCCF & HoFF, Telangana, Hyderabad, to furnish the remarks on the further defense statement of the Charged Officer, which was already called for by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana, Hyderabad and pending with the Conservator of Forests, Khammam.

8. As such, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Telangana, Hyderabad inRef.No.15166/2008/D&A-3, dated 09.07.2020, has forwarded the remarks of Chief Conservator of Forests/Conservator of Forests, Khammam along with case records.

9. The Charged Officer has retired from Government Service on attaining the age of superannuation on 31.10.2021. Hence, the disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

10. On examination of the matter, Government have taken a provisional decision to impose a punishment of "withholding of 5% (five percent) of pension for a period of five (5) years, besides recovery of the loss caused to Government for an amount of Rs.19,920/- with interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Dept., dated 09.02.2006 and the period of suspension from 27.06.2009 to 06.06.2010 treated as not on duty" against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980. Accordingly, in Memo., 2nd read above, a Show-cause Notice was issued to the Charged Officer through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Guntur. The Charged Officer has acknowledged the Show-cause Notice on 19.06.2022 but did not submit his explanation within stipulated time.

11. On examination, Government have decided to confirm the provisional decision to impose a punishment of "withholding of 5% (five percent) of

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pension for a period of five (5) years, besides recovery of the loss caused to Government for an amount of Rs.19,920/- with interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Dept., dated 09.02.2006 and the period of suspension from 27.06.2009 to 06.06.2010 treated as not on duty" against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

12. In the reference 4th read above, the Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Vijayawada has been consulted in the matter; and in the letter 5th read above, the Commission have communicated their advice.

13. After careful examination of the entire matter, the Government hereby order to impose a punishment of "withholding of 5% (five percent) of pension for a period of five (5) years, besides recovery of the loss caused to Government for an amount of Rs.19,920/- with interest as per G.O.Ms.No.33, Finance (TFR.1) Dept., dated 09.02.2006 and the period of suspension from 27.06.2009 to 06.06.2010 treated as not on duty" against Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

14. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri V. Satya Prasad, Forest Range Officer (Retd.), earlier Dammapeta Range of Khammam Division through the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri.
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, A.P., Mangalagiri. (w.e)
(With original connected case record i.e., Conservator of Forests, Khammam File bearing No.1356/2009/M1 containing CF pages – 374)

Copy to:

The Accountant General (A&E), Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Mangalagiri, Guntur District.
The Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Vijayawada.
The OSD to M (Energy, EFS&T, Mines & Geology).
The Secretary to A.P. Vigilance Commission, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
The PS to the Special Chief Secretary to Government, EFS&T Department.
SF/SC (Computer No.1423832)

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER